

## *From the Editor*

The fight against terrorism is the focus of this issue of *Military Review*. Our country's long-term campaign is well underway. The President of the United States, and now the Office of Homeland Security, is developing our national strategy, and the U.S. Army is a key member of the team that has taken the field to execute that strategy. Military professionals must learn all they can about the nature of terrorism, continue to sharpen responses to combat perpetrators, and do all that is possible to prevent future attacks against the United States.

What then are the terrorist threats arrayed against us? What are their capabilities and vulnerabilities? These questions are addressed in this issue. Graham Turbiville examines the Soviet Union's Cold War targeting methods against American warfighting in the continental United States to glean insights into how terrorist organizations might proceed in their efforts against us. Other authors look to how an understanding of both contemporary and historic perspectives on terrorism is fundamental to fighting this 21st-century foe. Lieutenant Colonel Andrew "Boomer" Smith analyzes how terrorists' modus operandi is changing and how governments should counteract the new terrorism. Tim Thomas writes an insightful piece on information terrorism and how terrorists exploit the civilized world to accomplish their goals. Les Grau explains how combat at high altitude differs from combat at lower elevations, and why it requires a different orientation and force structure. Vincent Foulk completes the section nicely with his contribution on how the Judge Advocate General Corps can help commanders understand the intricacies of Islamic law when conducting civil-military operations in Muslim countries.

A discussion of the war on terrorism is not complete without considering the news media and the effect they have on diplomacy, on military operations, and on national and international support of U.S. actions. Today, more than ever, the media play a crucial role in providing information. Media products serve as a window to the world, and the information they provide—accurate or inaccurate—greatly influences perceptions and actions. Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Lovejoy, Jason Holm, and Major Barry Venable describe the often-strained relationship between the military and the media. They recommend that we continue to build on mutual interests while recognizing respective differences. The key to successful media interaction is removing old apprehensions, stereotypes, and rules of engagement through robust training and preparation, and ensuring greater media access to our soldiers, leaders, and units.

The dastardly innovations in warfighting wrought by the al-Qaeda still reverberate across our great land. The actions of 11 September will likely continue to influence military thinking forevermore. Colonel Christopher Paparone and James Crupi argue that we recognize the reality of this change and that we should embrace a new paradigm for conducting military operations. Throughout this new war on terrorism, leadership remains a critically important element of our success on the battlefield. In the final piece in this issue, George Yeakey examines the situational leadership theory in light of recent Army doctrine.

As the United States continues its fight against terrorism, *Military Review* hopes to be a forum for reflection and analysis, and to stimulate a fruitful dialogue. We invite you to share your views, expertise, and experiences at this most critical juncture in the evolution of U.S. military thinking.

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